

# STATE OF COLORADO

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## DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL & ADMINISTRATION

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## MNT Policy on Participation

The Executive Director of the Department of Personnel and Administration is given the responsibility to carry out all duties in a manner that is consistent with the objective of maximizing access to digital networks of the state by all public offices of all levels, branches and political subdivisions of the state within every community of the state, CRS 24-30-903(7).

The Strategic Plan for a Statewide Telecommunication Infrastructure was adopted by the Commission on Information Management (IMC) in February 1998. The IMC, pursuant to statutory authority (CRS 24-37.5-201) developed requirements for the statewide communications and information infrastructure. The Multi-use Network (MNT) was recognized in statute, CRS 23-11.5-104, with beginnings in Higher Education as a way to connect Colorado schools, public libraries, and institutions of higher education for the purposes of enhancing instruction and information access. An MNT Task Force recognized that by aggregating demand of state agencies, a statewide network could accomplish several goals including access to advanced services for Colorado citizens and a favorable business case for private sector investment. One objective in the Strategic Plan was to develop a program to assist communities to extend network services from the aggregated network access point (ANAP) to each public/non-profit user (schools, libraries, health care facilities, local government, etc.) with a need for this capability.

The Strategic Plan recognized that, to gain economies of scale, the aggregation of traffic by all departments of government be required. This included local government, federally funded projects, other public entities, and non-profits so as to maximize the benefits for economic development throughout Colorado.

Executive Order B 02 01, issued on January 12, 2001, required all state departments, agencies, and institutions, including higher education, to participate.

The eligible participants for the use of MNT include all state and federal departments, agencies, and institutions or political subdivisions of the state, federal, or of any local government. In addition, all non-profit hospitals are eligible to use the MNT. Any other organizations, including non-profits, will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis according to the following criteria:

1. Network Availability and customer telecommunications compatibility
2. Types and purposes (public nature) of customer network traffic
3. Agreement to State and local provider terms and conditions, including participation in aggregating traffic with others.